

# Los Angeles County Health Survey

Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology  
Los Angeles County  
Department of Health Services

Presented By  
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# Mission of the Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology

- To ensure the availability of high quality and comprehensive health data on the Los Angeles County population and to facilitate its use for public health assessment, policy development, program planning and evaluation.

# Role of Health Surveys

- Population health data increasingly used to drive public health decision-making and community health improvement efforts.
- Most local health jurisdictions lack important health data:
  - chronic disease prevalence
  - functional status and other measures of health-related quality of life
  - health behaviors
  - access to health services
- To address gaps in local health data, LA County Department of Health Services inaugurated the Los Angeles County Health Survey in 1997.

# Key Analysis Objectives

- To obtain reliable population estimates for selected health indicators by various demographics including sex, race/ethnicity (the 4 largest groups), and Service Planning Area (8 regions in the county).
- To identify disparities across population sub-groups.
- To track temporal trends.
- To compare with state and national data and with national health objectives.

# Methodology

- Population-based, random-digit-dialed telephone survey of Los Angeles County residents
- Representative of Adults and Children in Los Angeles County
- Conducted in 1997; 1999-2000; 2002-2003; and 2005

# Components and Sample Size

1997	1999-2000	2002-2003	2005
<b>Adult (n=8,004)</b>	<b>Adult (n=8,354)</b>	<b>Adult (n=8,167)</b>	<b>Adult (n= 8,648)</b>
<b>Child (n=2,363)</b>	<b>Child (n=6,016)</b>	<b>Child (n=5,995)</b>	<b>Child (n=6,032)</b>
<b>Tobacco Policy (n=519)</b>	<b>Tobacco Policy (n=481)  Elder health (n=1160)  Low-income Survey (n=1898)</b>	<b>8 Sub-samples (n~1,000 each) Bio-terrorism (2) Tobacco Policy (2) Health Dept./ Antibiotic Use Food-borne Illness Young Children &amp; Families Alcohol Policy</b>	<b>8 Sub-samples (n~1,000 each) Bio-terrorism (2) Tobacco Policy (2) Health Dept./ Antibiotic Use Food-borne Illness Young Children &amp; Families Alcohol Policy</b>

# Adult Component Content

- Demographic Characteristics
- Chronic Disease Prevalence
  - Arthritis
  - Cardiovascular Disease
  - Diabetes
  - Asthma / Chronic Respiratory Condition
- Functional Status and Other Measures of Health-Related Quality of Life
  - Health Status
  - Mental Health

# Adult Component Content

- **Health Behaviors**
  - Tobacco Use
  - Alcohol Use
  - Physical Activity
  - Sexual Practices and HIV Testing
- **Access to Health Services**
  - Health Insurance
  - Ease of obtaining medical care
  - Regular Source of Care
  - Barriers to Accessing Health Care
- **Food Insecurity and Public Aid Assistance**
- **Medical Examinations and Vaccinations**
  - Mammogram
  - Colorectal Screening
  - Flu

# Child Component Content

- Demographics (child & parent)
- Child Health
  - SHCNs, asthma, ETS, parent-perceived health status
- Child Health Insurance & Access to Care
  - Status/type, gaps in coverage, difficulty accessing care, RSC, ER use, LAC-DHS use
- Child Routines
  - TV viewing, read to child\*, tells stories to child\*, play music/sing songs with child\*, bed times\*, meal times\*

\*asked of parents with children aged 0-5 yrs.

# Child Component Content

## Prenatal to Postpartum\*

- HIV testing; breastfeeding, hospital practices post partum; infant sleep position

## Parent Behaviors/Risks/Perceptions

- Parental aggravation/stress\*, ease of finding someone to talk to about raising child\*, safe park/playground accessible, neighborhood belonging, cigarette use, mental health risk

## Childcare\*

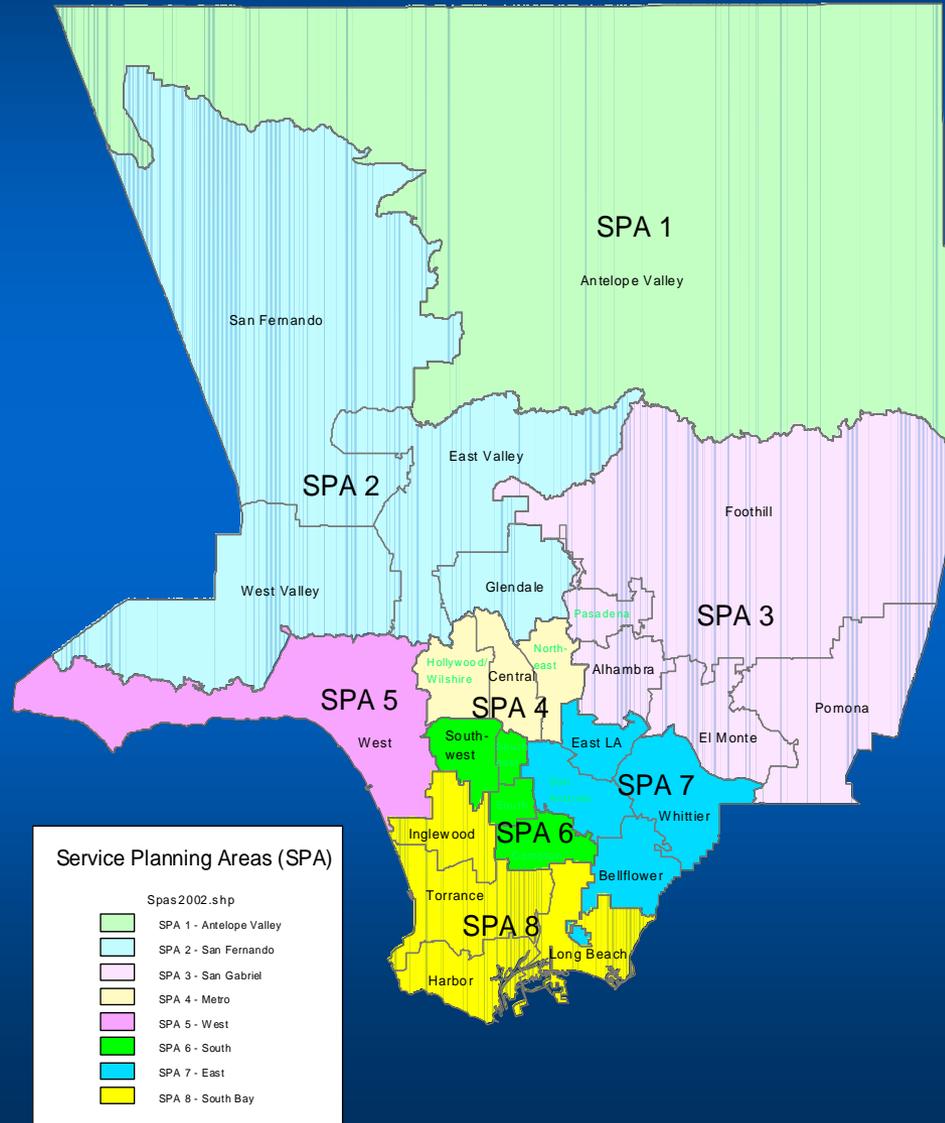
- Type(s), difficulty obtaining child care, reasons why no child care used

\*asked of parents with children aged 0-5 yrs.

# Languages of Interviews

<u>Language</u>	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Child</u>
• English	6455 (72%)	3521 (59%)
• Spanish	1802 (23%)	2246 (37%)
• Cantonese	64 (1%)	48 (<1%)
• Mandarin	82 (1%)	34 (<1%)
• Korean	189 (3%)	132 (<2%)
• Vietnamese	40 (<1%)	41 (<1%)
• Armenian	16 (<1%)	10 (<1%)

# Service Planning Areas and Health Districts



# Data Examples

## Adult Health

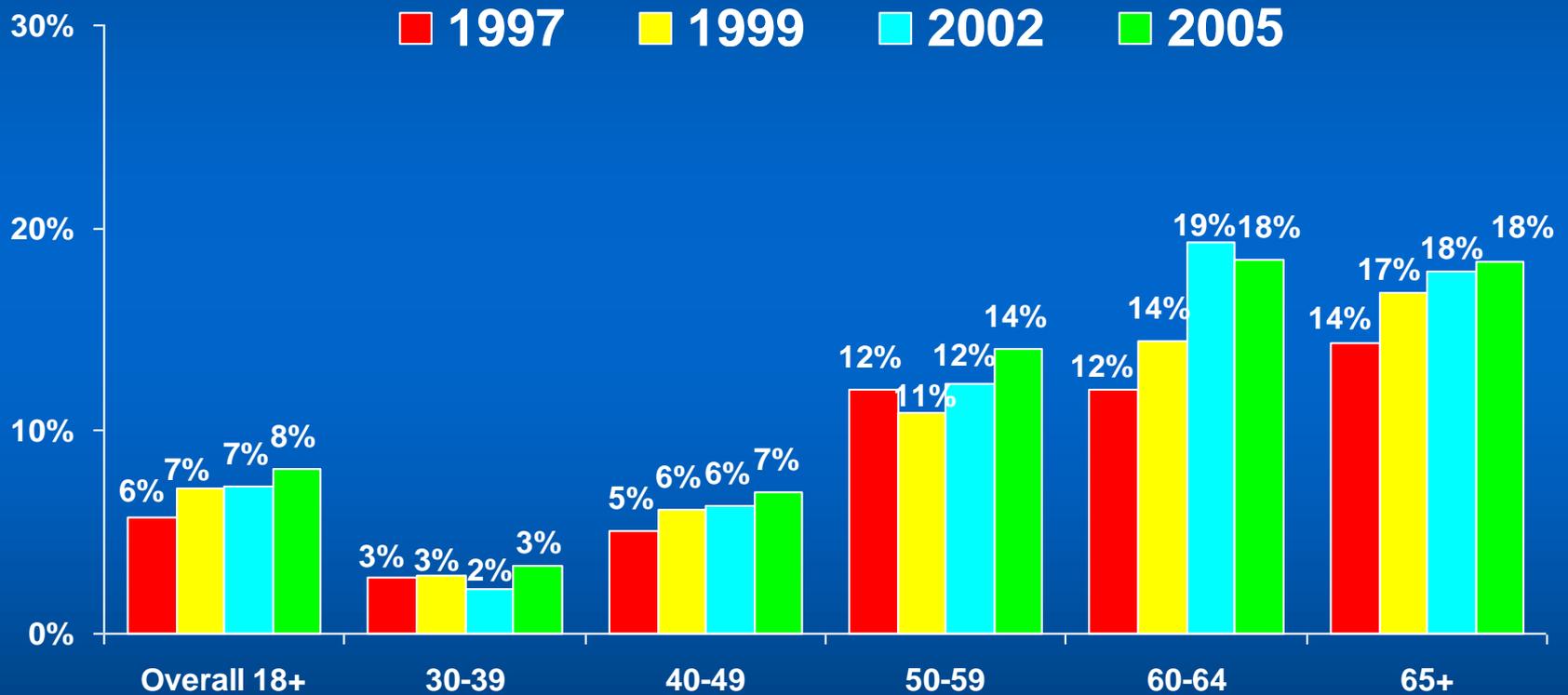
### 1) Chronic Disease

- Diabetes
- Obesity

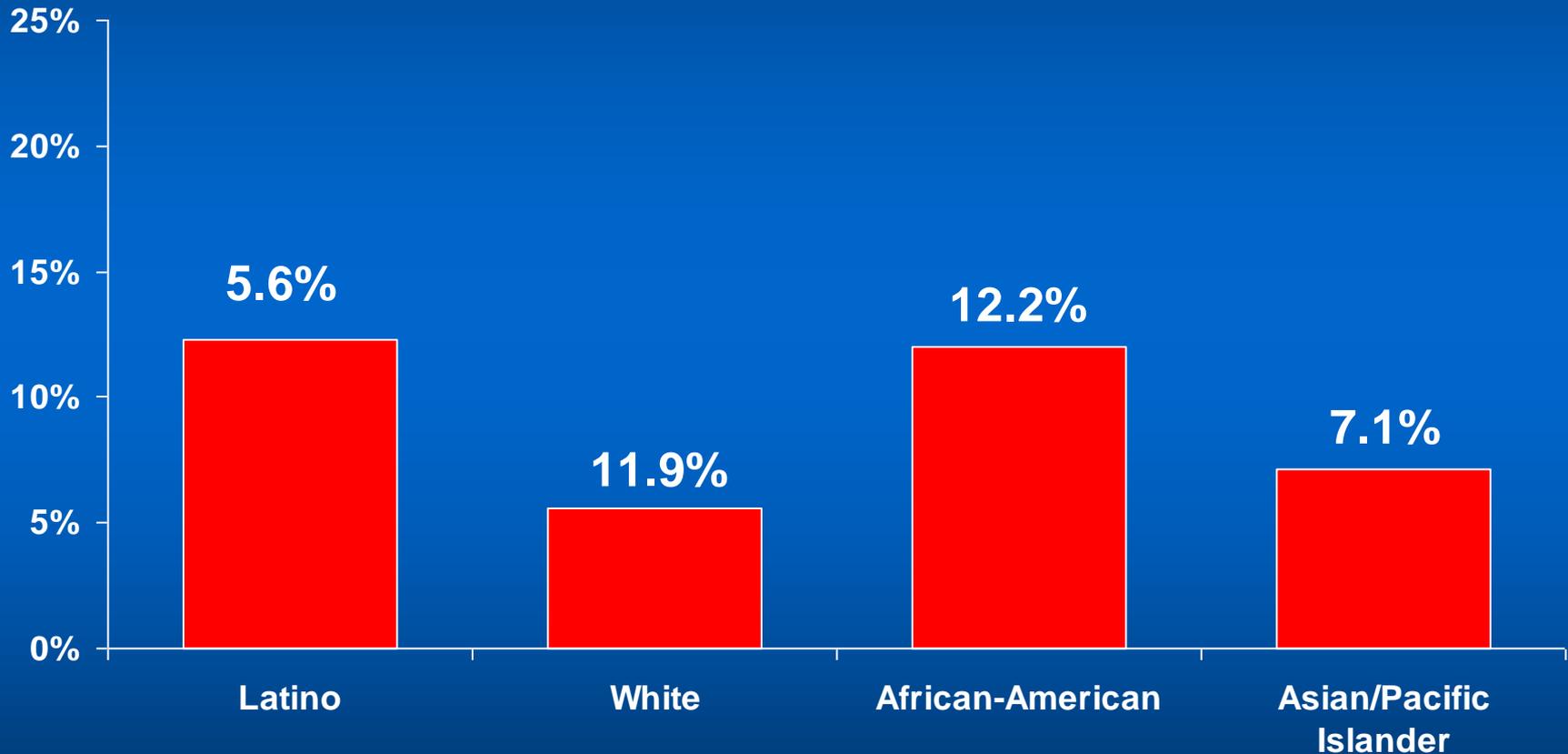
### 2) Health Behavior

- Smoking

# Diabetes Trends by Age Groups, 1997-2005

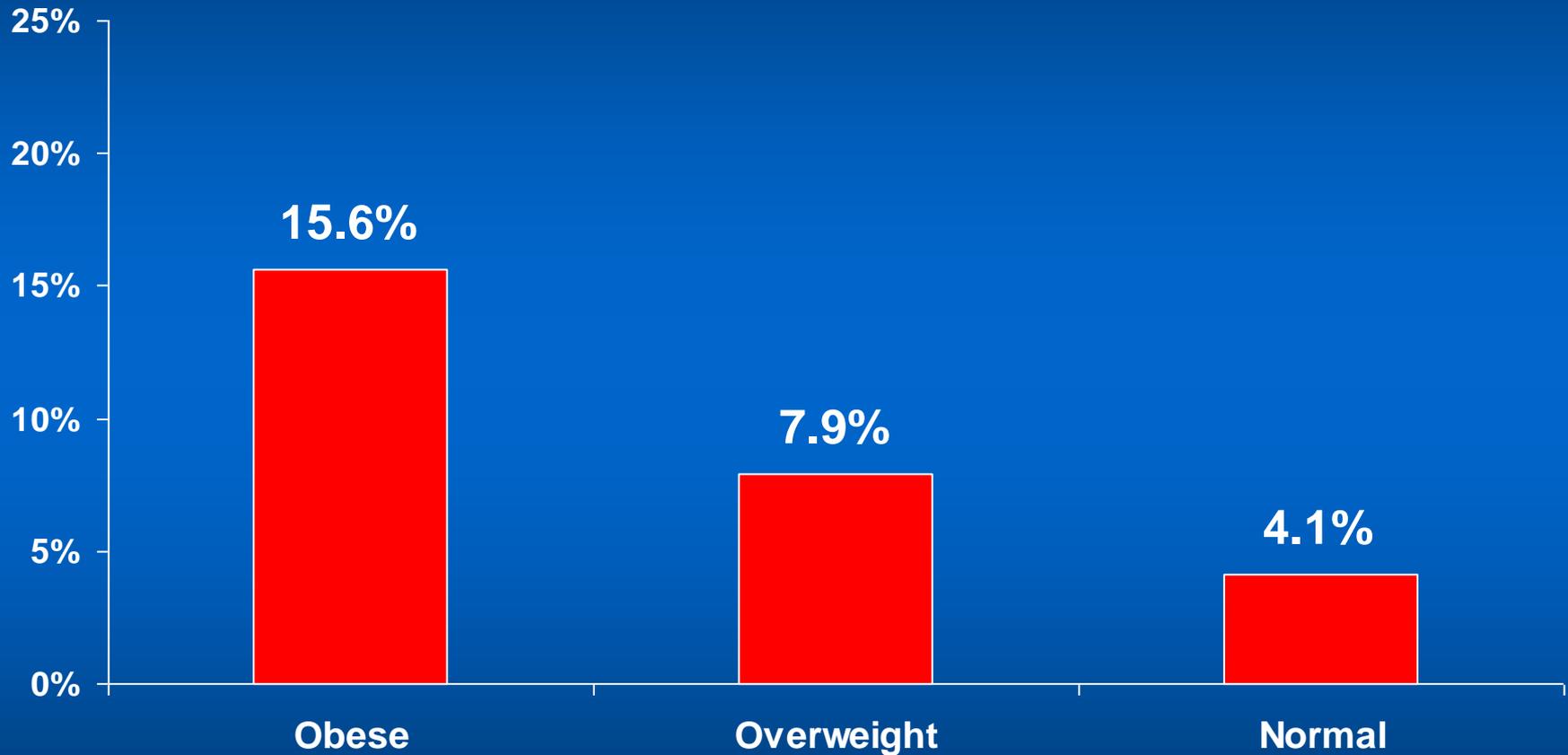


# Prevalence<sup>†</sup> of Diabetes Among Adults in Los Angeles County, by Race/Ethnicity, 2005



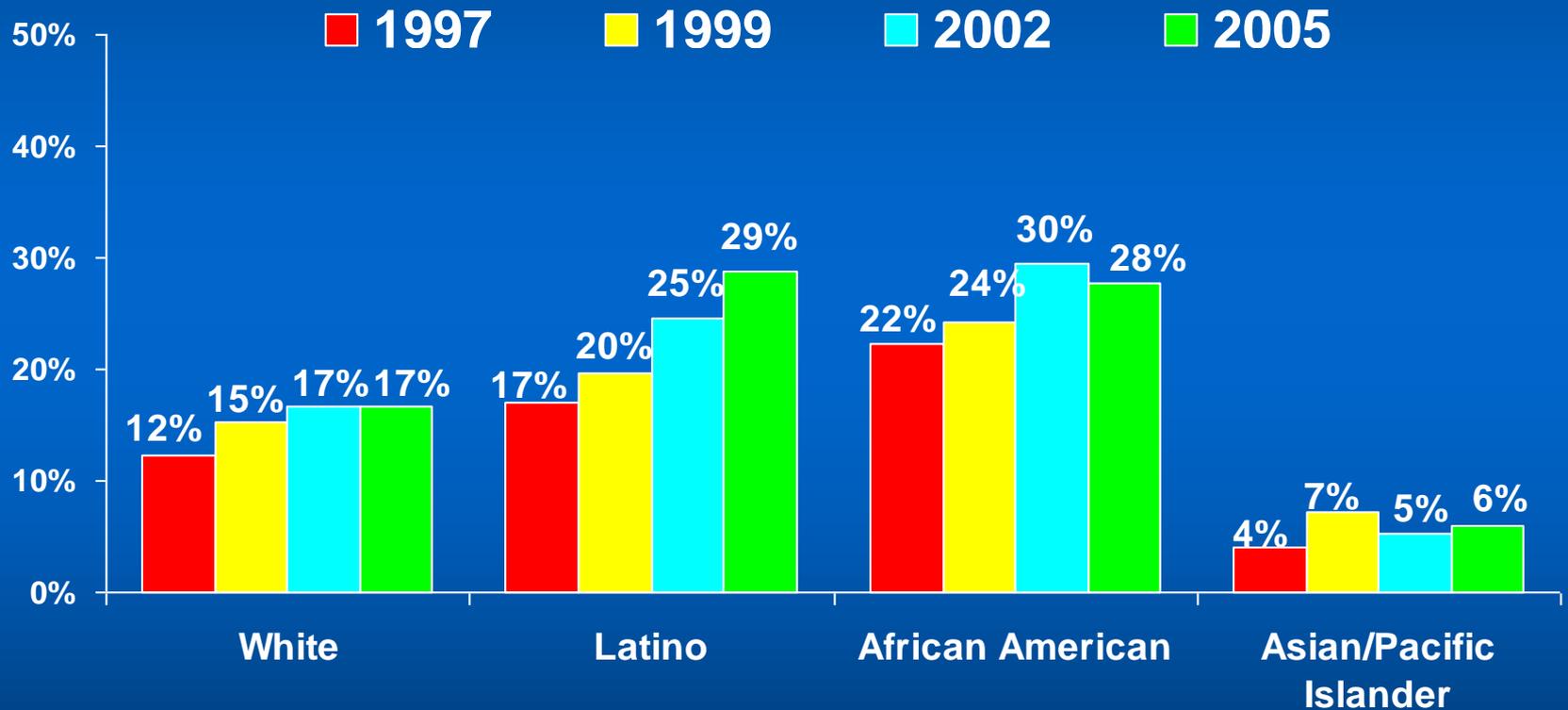
<sup>†</sup> Age-adjusted to 2000 US population

# Prevalence of Diabetes by Body Mass Index‡, 2005

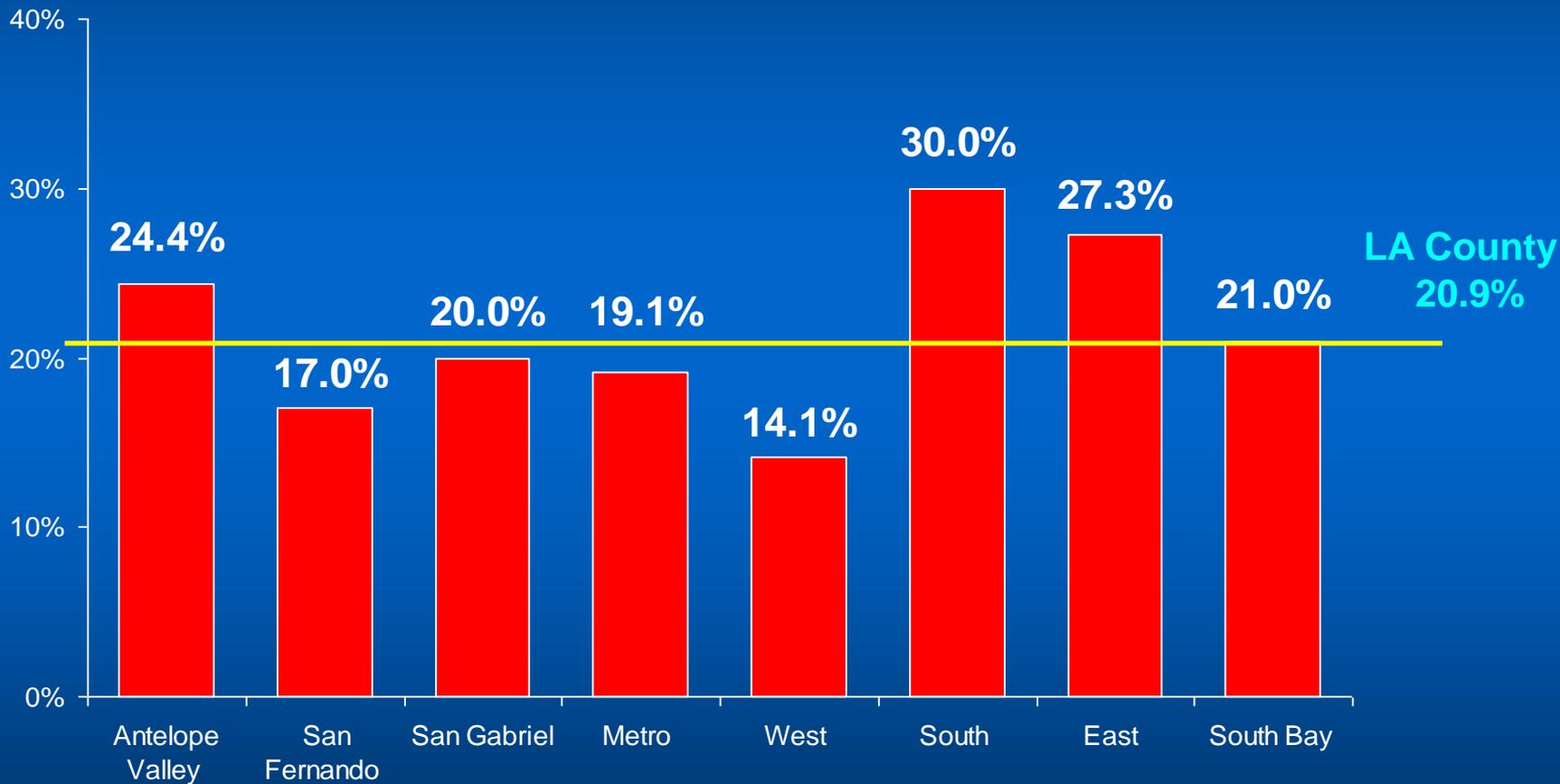


‡Weight status is based on Body Mass Index (BMI) calculated from self-reported weight and height. According to NHLBI clinical guidelines, a BMI < 18.5 is underweight, a BMI > 18.5 and < 25 is normal weight, a BMI > 25 and < 30 is overweight, and a BMI > 30 is obese. [

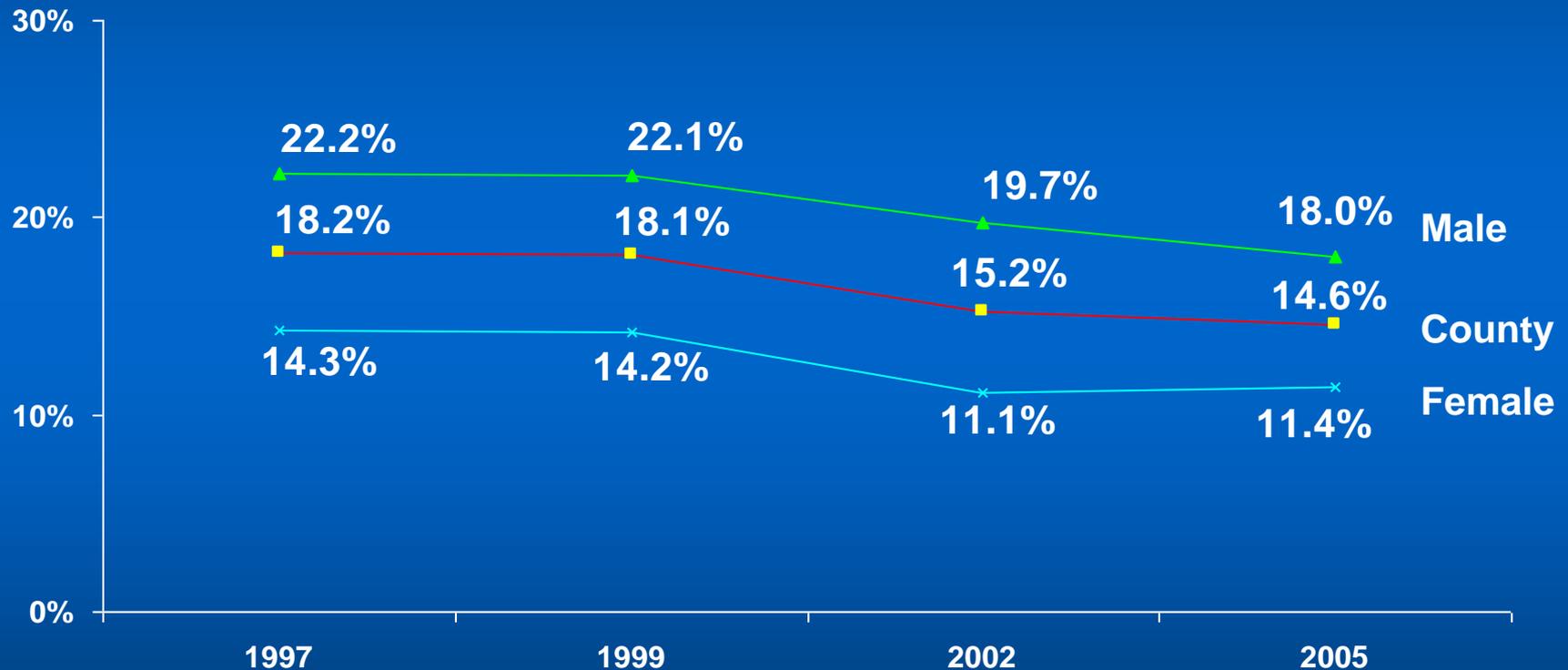
# Prevalence of Obesity Among Adults ( $\geq 18$ years old) by Race/Ethnicity, Los Angeles County, 1997-2005



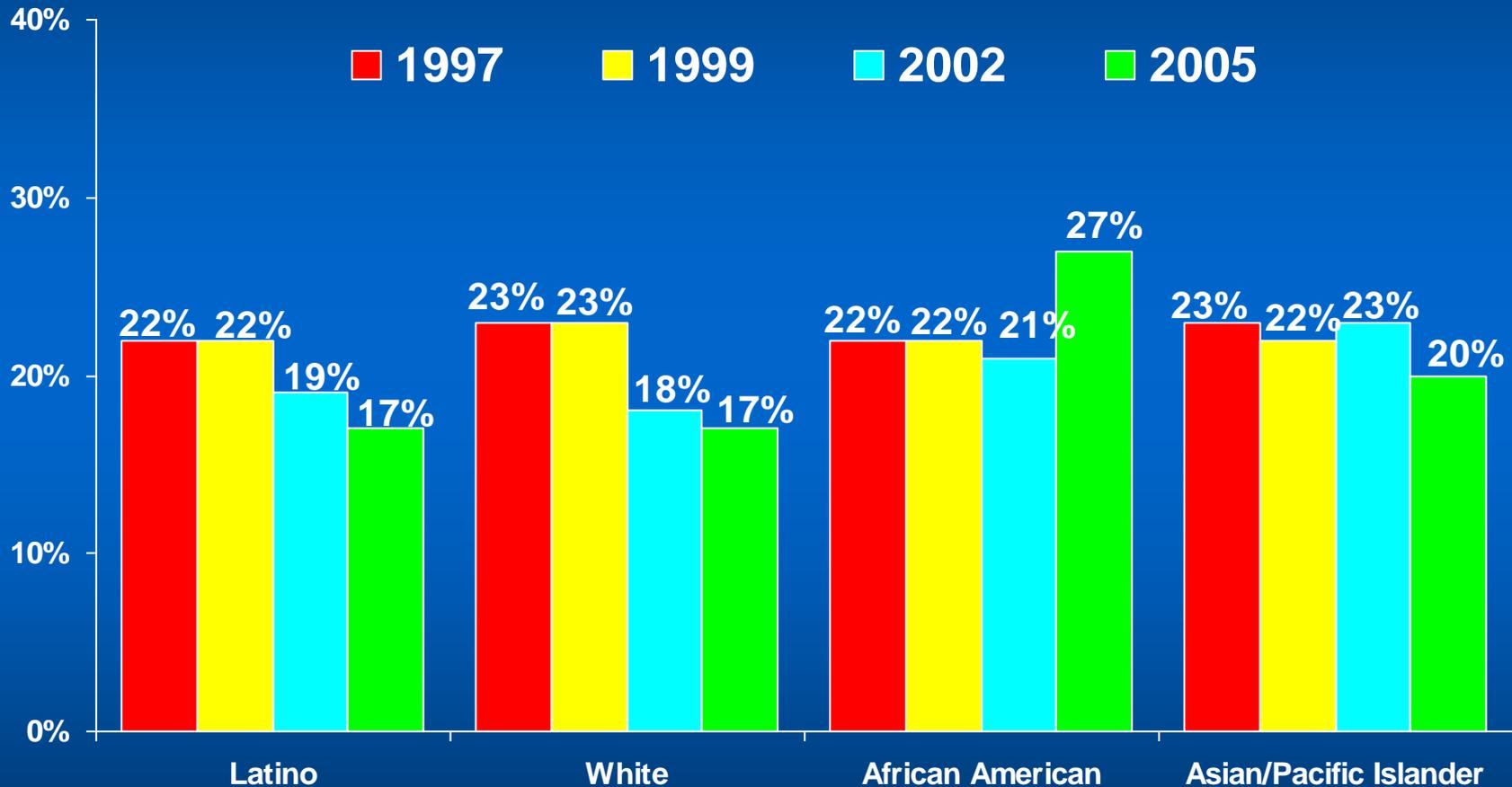
# Prevalence of Obesity Among Adults by Service Planning Area, Los Angeles County, 2005



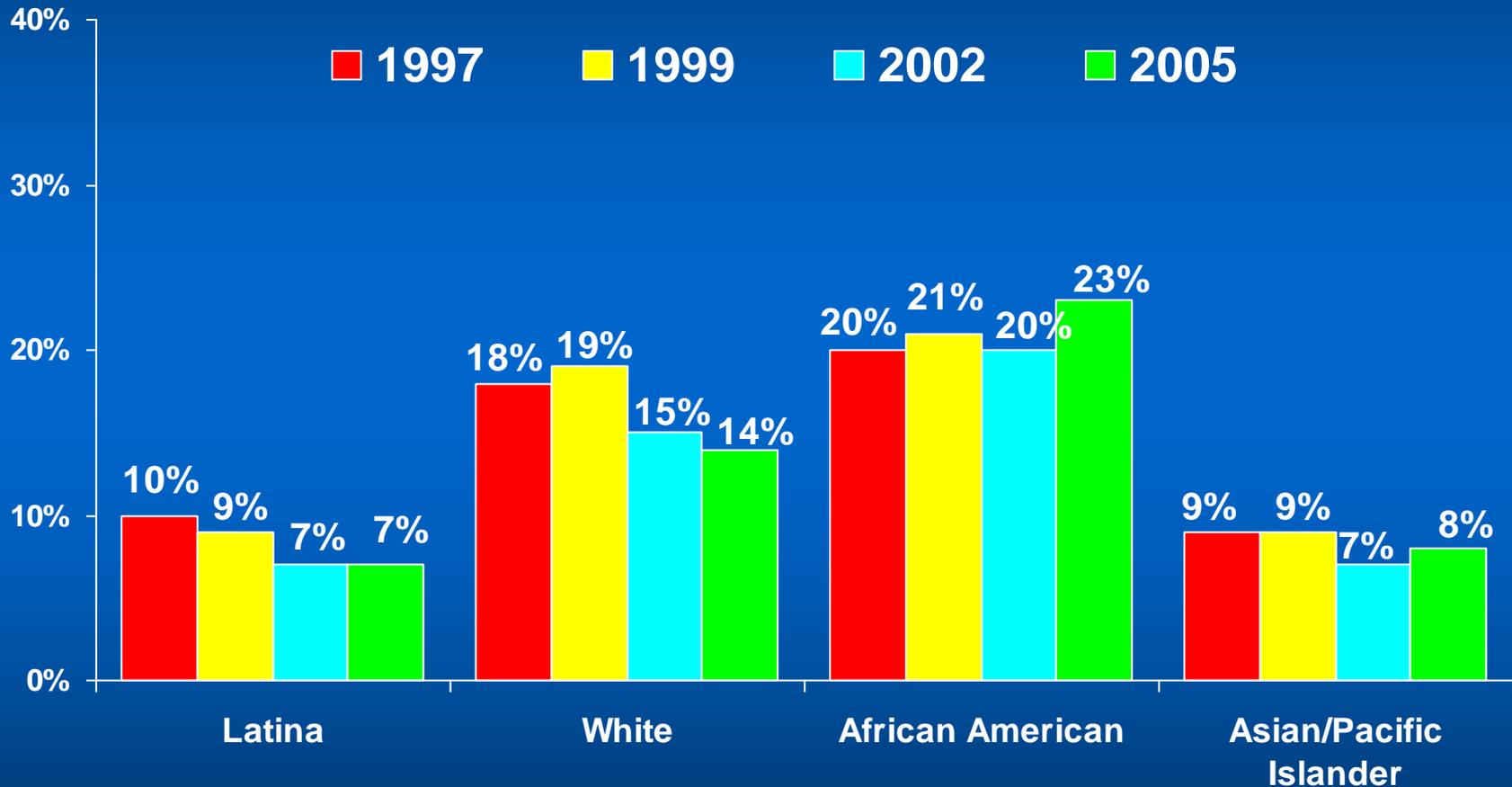
# Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking Among Adults ( $\geq 18$ years old), Los Angeles County, 1997-2005



# Percent of Male Cigarette Smokers by Race/Ethnicity, 1997-2005



# Percent of Female Cigarette Smokers by Race/Ethnicity, 1997-2005

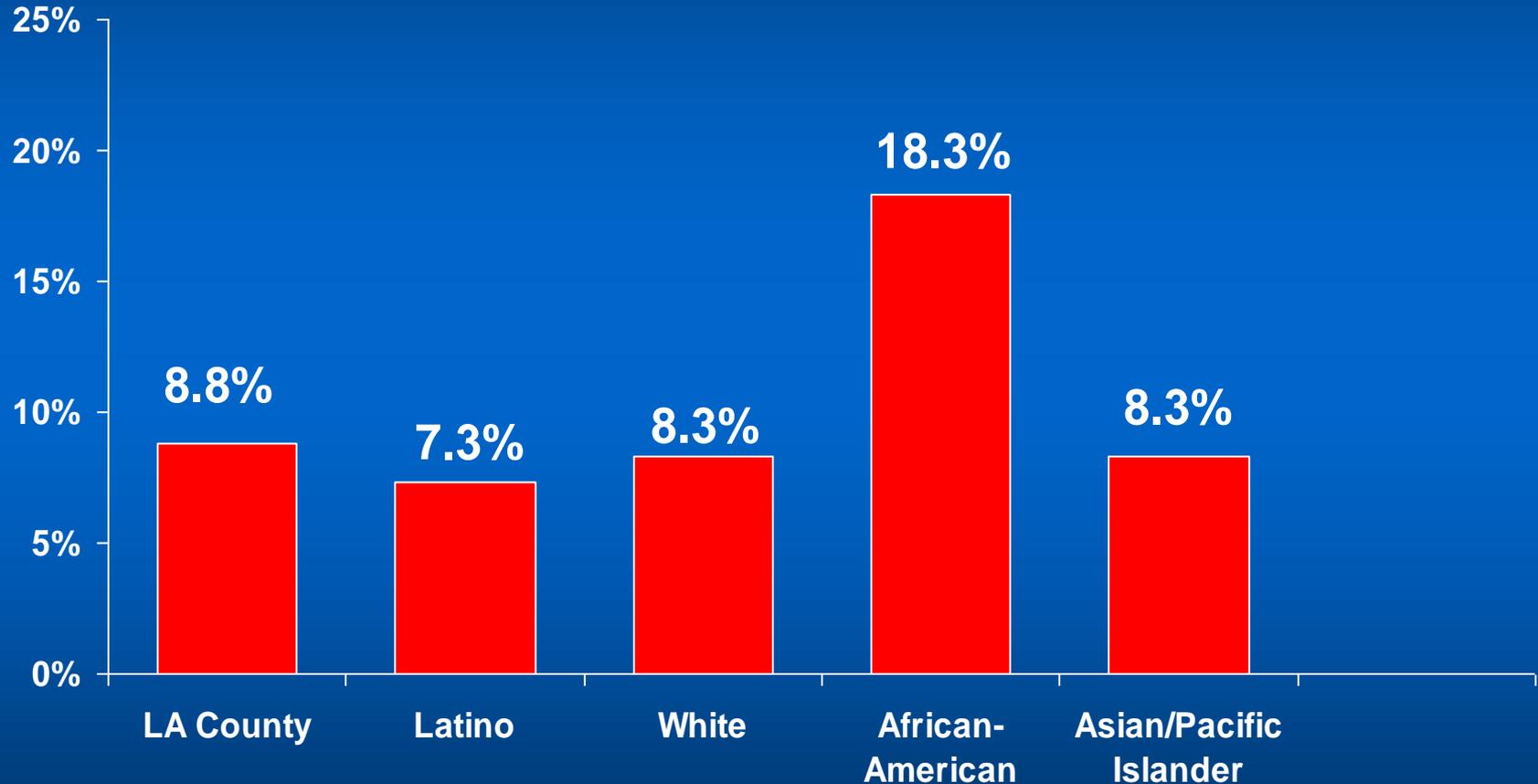


# **Data Examples**

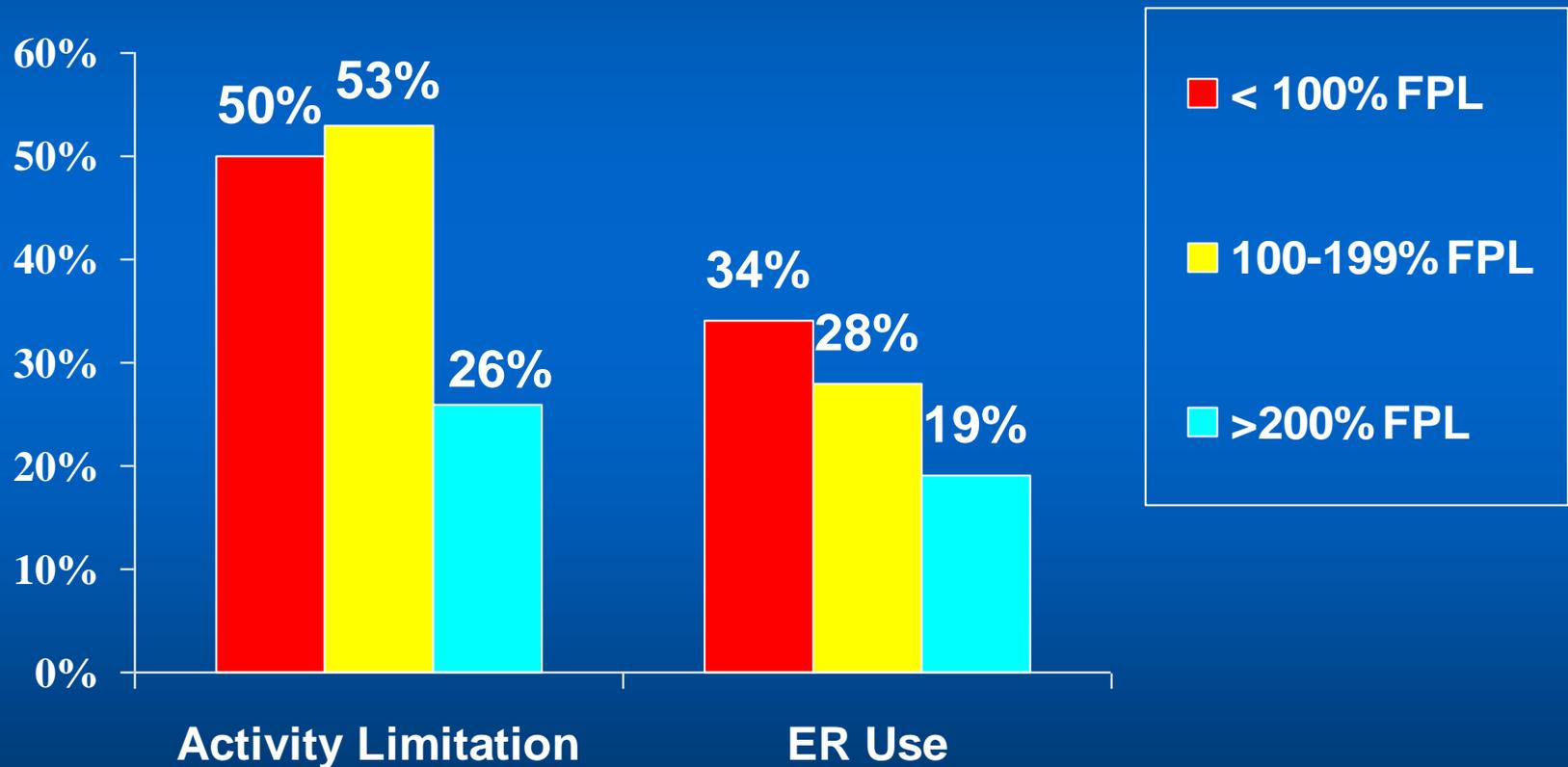
## **Child Health**

- 1) Childhood Asthma**
- 2) Children with Special Health Care Needs**
- 3) Breastfeeding**

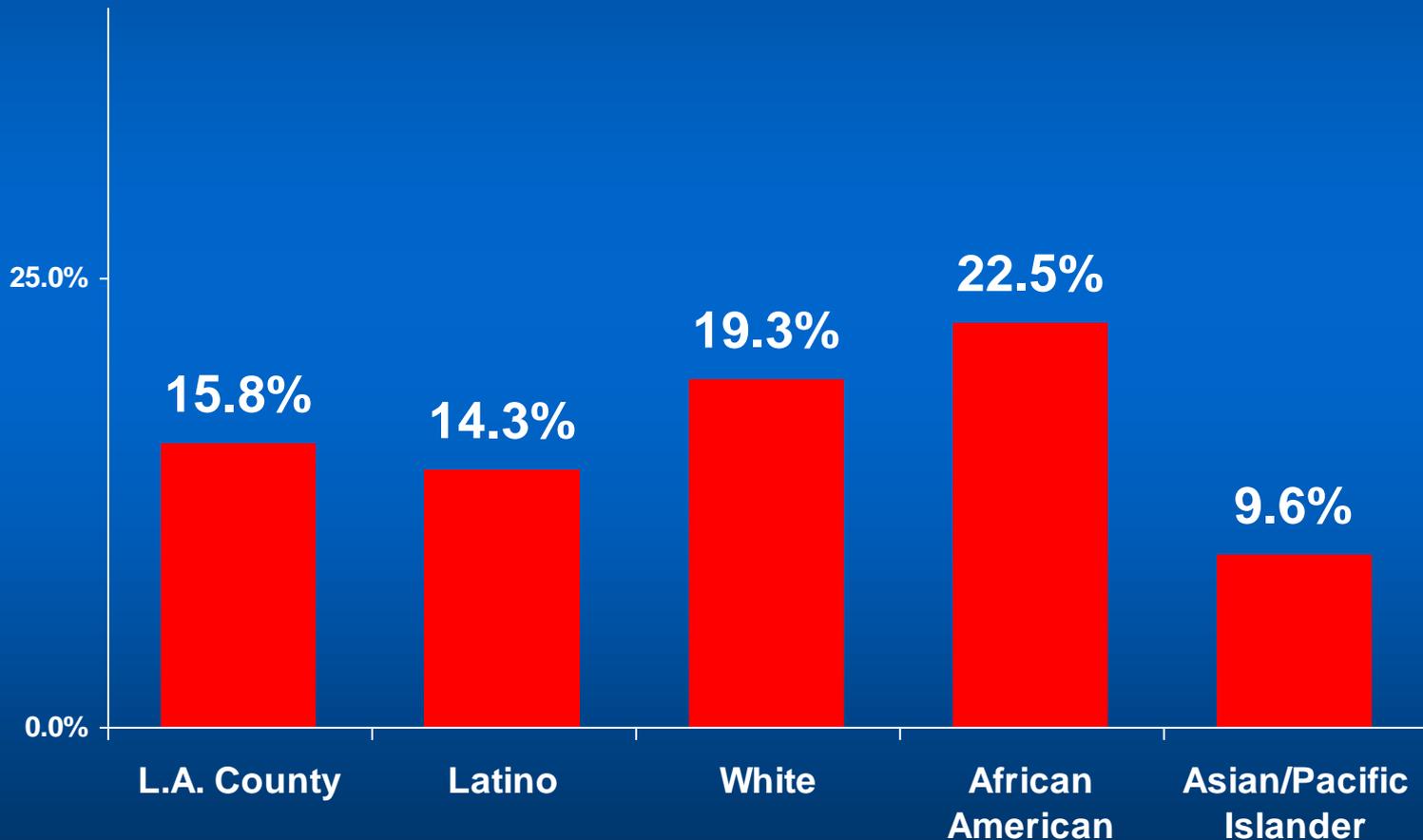
# Prevalence of Asthma by Child's Race/Ethnicity (≤17 years old), Los Angeles County, 2005



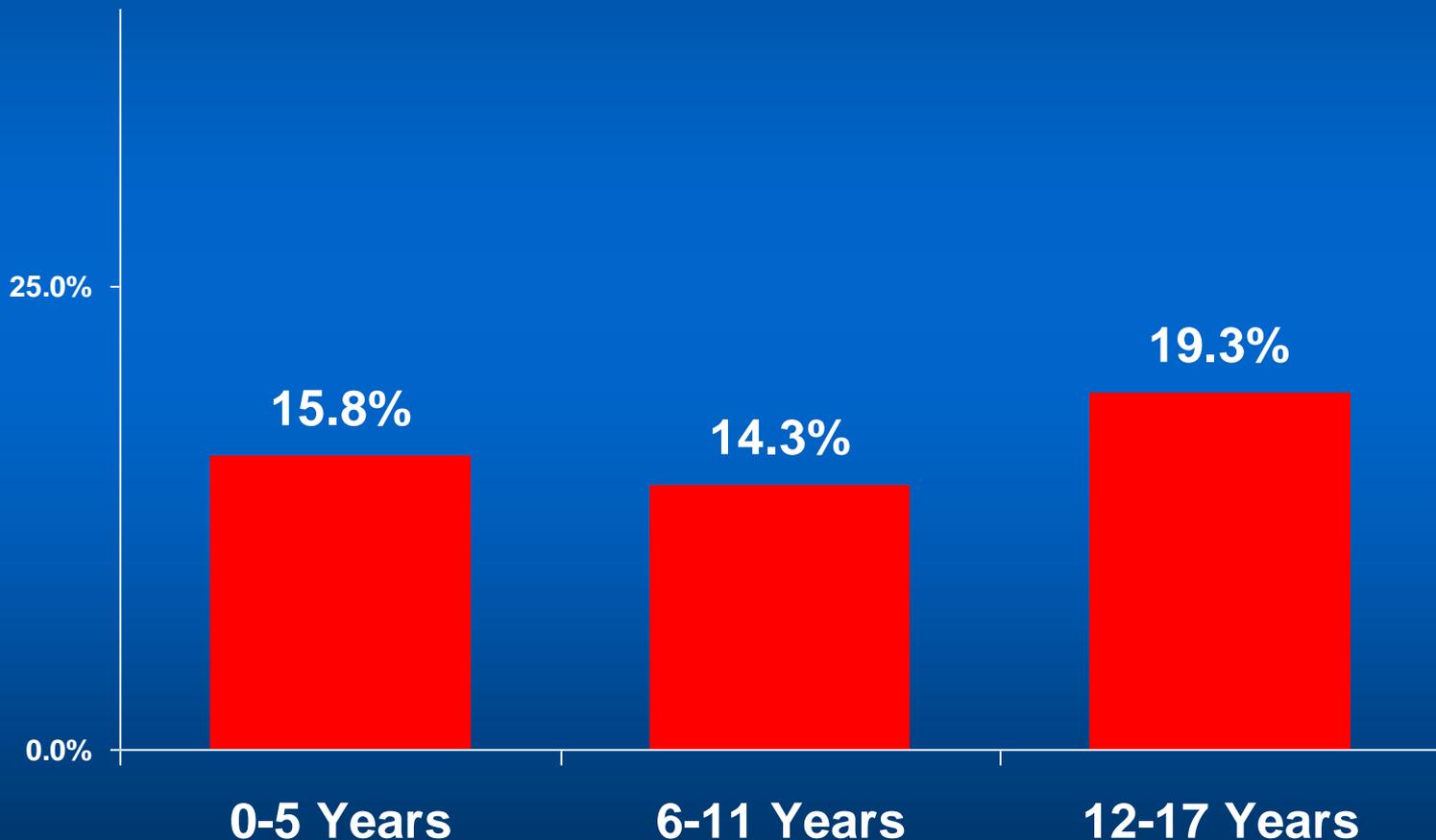
# Activity Limitation and Emergency Room Visits by Income, Children with Asthma ( $\leq 17$ years old), 2005



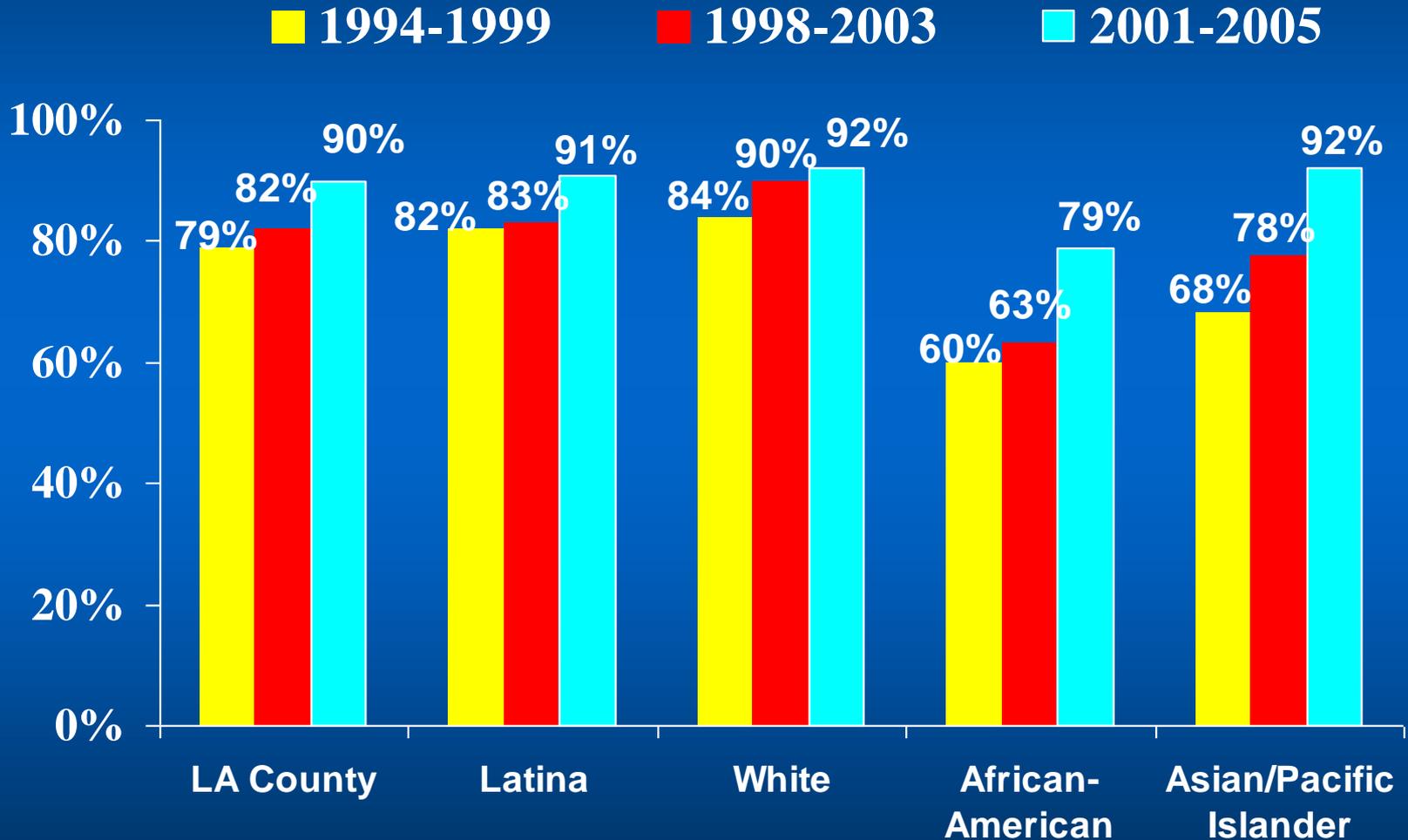
# Percent of Children ( $\leq 17$ years old) with Special Health Care Needs (SHCNs) by Race/Ethnicity, 2005



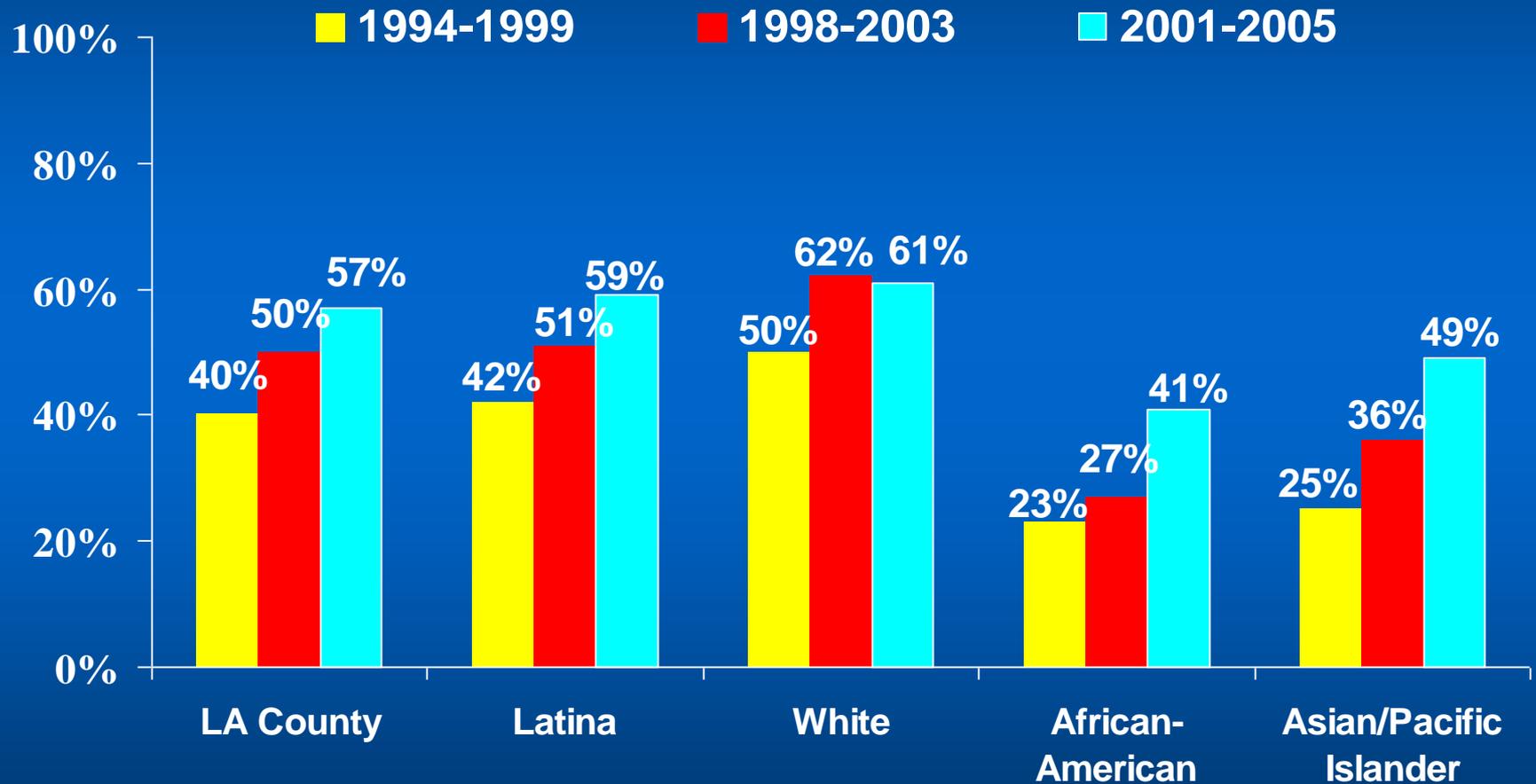
# Percent of Children ( $\leq 17$ years old) with Special Health Care Needs (SHCNs) by Age Group, 2005



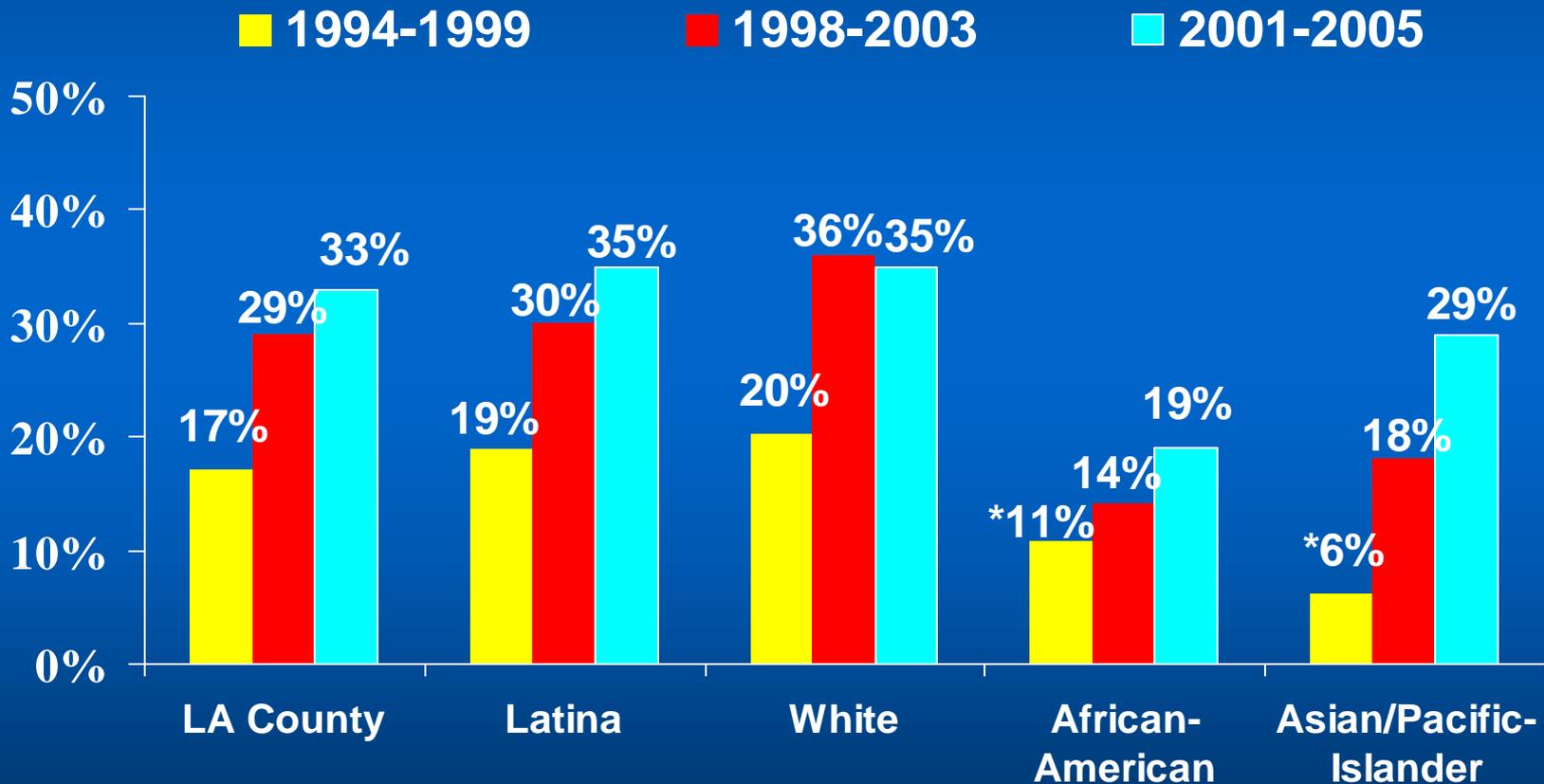
# Prevalence of Breastfeeding Initiation by Child Race/Ethnicity, 1994-2005



# Prevalence of Breastfeeding 6 Months or Longer by Child Race/Ethnicity, 1994-2005

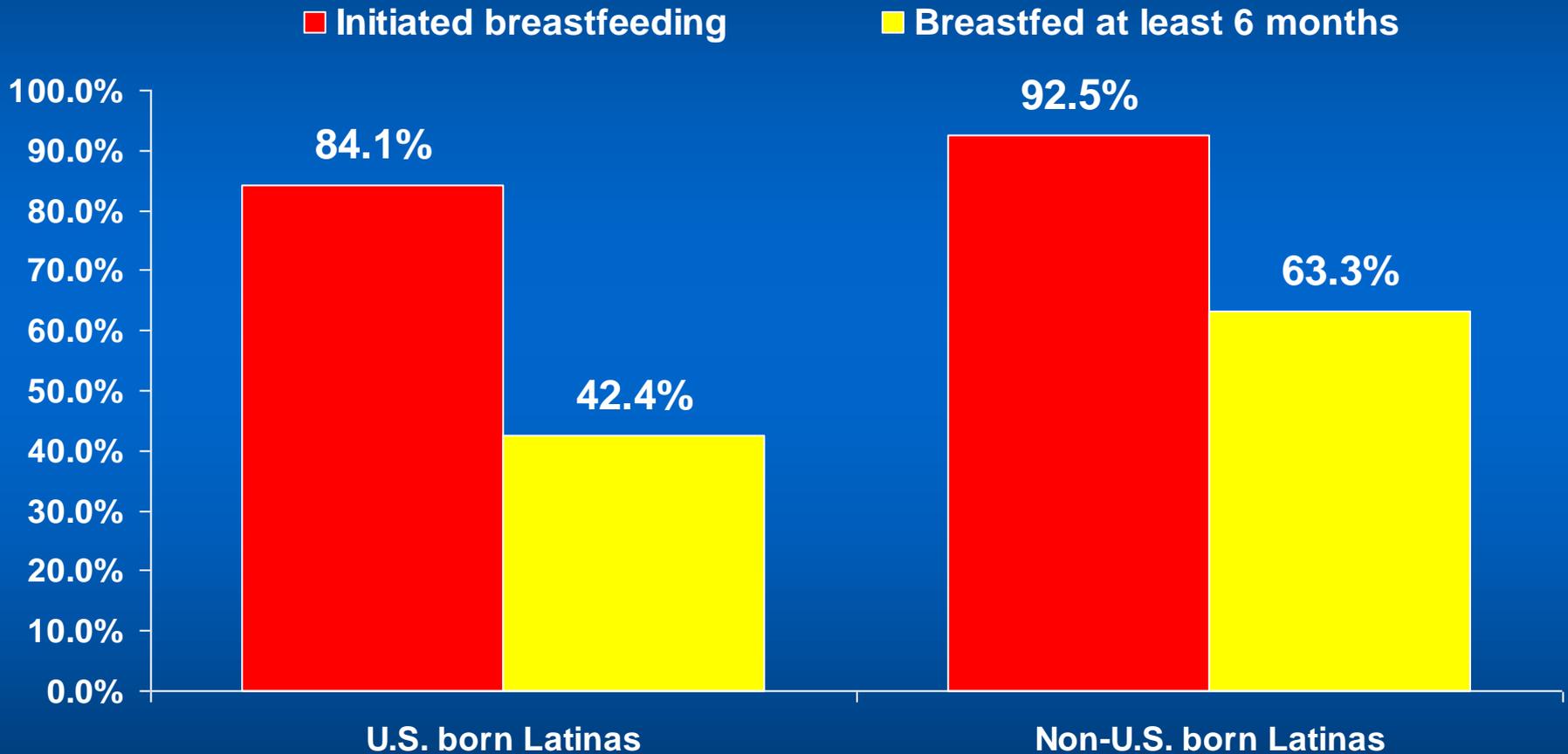


# Prevalence of Breastfeeding 12 Months or Longer by Child Race/Ethnicity, 1994-2005



\* Estimate based on small sample size

# Percent of Latina Mothers Who Initiated Breastfeeding and Breastfed at Least 6 Months by Birthplace, 2001-2005



# Limitations of Survey

- Self-reported data
- Non-telephone households not included in the sampling frame
- Questionnaire content limited by time constraints
- Does not represent those living in group quarters (e.g. nursing homes and college dormitories)

# Users of the Data, Los Angeles County Health Survey

- LAC Department of Health Services
- Governmental organizations (local, county, & state)
- Non-profit health foundations
- Community-based organizations (health centers, hospitals, human services, providers, health-interested organizations)
- Policymakers (advocacy groups)
- Researchers
- Private health care organizations
- Academic health and health policy professionals

# Uses of the Data

- LAC-DHS Evaluation and Program Planning
  - Ambulatory care planning
  - Medi-Cal and Healthy Families outreach and enrollment targets
  - Public health emergency response preparedness
  - HIV counseling and testing
- Health services planning (e.g., Kaiser Kids)
- Community Health Assessment (e.g., SB 697)
- School Readiness Indicators
- Public Education
- Advocacy (e.g., food security)
- Funding proposals/grant applications

# Dissemination of Results

- Health Briefs and Fact Sheets (L.A. Health)
- Comprehensive Reports for county as a whole (e.g., Health Trends) and 8 Service Planning Areas (e.g., Key Health Indicators)
- Custom data requests and reports
- On the Web ([www.lapublichealth.org/ha](http://www.lapublichealth.org/ha))
- Press Releases and Press Conferences
- Presentations

# Dissemination of Results

- DHS Newsletters (e.g., The Public's Health mailed to 30,000 LA Co. Physicians)
- Reports produced by other organizations (e.g., Children's Planning Council, United Way, First 5 LA)
- Newsletters disseminated by other organizations (e.g., advocacy groups)
- Peer-reviewed journal publications

**For additional information, call the  
Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology  
at (213) 240-7785**

**or**

**Go to our website:**

***[www.lapublichealth.org/ha](http://www.lapublichealth.org/ha)***